

## Message Text

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ACTION ITF-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 VOE-00 AID-05 FDRE-00

OPR-02 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /077 W

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R 010744Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3595

INFO DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BANGKOK 7787

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, TH, CB, VS

SUBJ: CHATCHAI ON VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 30. THE FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF HIS REMARKS ON VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES IN THAILAND:

"REPORTER: WHAT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN IN REGARD TO PLANES WHICH FLEW HERE?

CHATCHAI: PLANES WHICH FLEE AND COME HERE WILL HAVE TO BELONG TO THAILAND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW. SO HOW CAN THEY BE RETURNED? WE DON'T KNOW YET WHAT THE AGREEMENT IS.

REPORTER: WILL WE ATTACH THEM TEMPORARILY AND AT PRESENT?

CHATCHAI: WE WILL ATTACH THEM TEMPORARILY AND AT PRESENT.

REPORTER: WHAT ABOUT PERSONS IN THE PLANES?

CHATCHAI: NOBODY IS ALLOWED TO REMAIN HERE, BUT MUST LEAVE OUR COUNTRY. LOOK AT THE REFUGEES WHO CAME FROM CAMBODIA INTO PRACHINBURI; AT FIRST THEY REFUSED TO LEAVE OUR COUNTRY, BUT NEARLY ALL OF THEM HAVE LEFT IT NOW. HOW CAN THEY CONTINUE RE-  
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MAINING HERE\*

REPORTER: WHAT ABOUT VIETNAMESE REFUGEES?

CHATCHAI: OH, VIETNAMESE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN HERE EITHER, ESPECIALLY SINCE VIETNAM DOES NOT HAVE A COMMON BORDER WITH THAILAND. ANYBODY WHO BRINGS THEM HERE MUST TAKE THEM AWAY. FRANCE IS BRINGING 600 REFUGEES HERE AND IT MUST TAKE THEM AWAY. I UNDERSTAND THAT THEY WILL COME HERE, ENTERING THAILAND THROUGH PRACHINBURI.

REPORTER: ARE THESE REFUGEES BROUGHT HERE BY FRANCE VIETNAMESE?

CHATCHAI: SOME ARE VIETNAMESE, AND SOME ARE FRENCH. THEY ARE PERSONS FROM THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH.

REPORTER: IS ANY CONTACT BEING MADE WITH THE SUPREME COMMAND (FORWARD)?

CHATCHAI: WE ARE IN CONTACT ALL THE TIME, PHONING EVERY 30 MINUTES, OR EVERY 15 MINUTES. I WILL NOT LET REFUGEES STAY HERE. WE HAVE A FIRM AND DEFINITE POLICY, STATING THAT NO REFUGEES ARE ALLOWED TO REMAIN HERE, THAT THEY MUST BE SENT BACK. BECAUSE THE GREATER THE NUMBER WHO ARE ALLOWED TO REMAIN HERE, THE MORE DIFFICULT IT WILL BE TO IMPLEMENT POLICY IN THE FUTURE."  
MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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